

# HYDE PARK HARRIERS

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Minutes of a meeting of the committee (the **Committee**) of Hyde Park Harriers (the **Club**) duly held and convened by teleconference on Sunday 24 March 2024 at 6pm.

Present:	Amy Ramsden-Young	( <b>AR-Y</b> – Chair)
	Clare Evans	( <b>CE</b> – Membership Secretary)
	Grace Roberts	( <b>GR</b> – Committee Member)
	Jonathan Spain	( <b>JS</b> – Committee Member)
	Laura Garratt	( <b>LG</b> – Committee Member)
	Richard Garratt	( <b>RG</b> – Committee Member)
	Toby Adkins	( <b>TA</b> – Club Secretary)
	Xeni Perry	( <b>XP</b> – Committee Member)
Apologies:	Curtis Ledger	( <b>CL</b> – Committee Member)
	Danny Clayton	( <b>DC</b> – Committee Member)
	Katherine Kirkham	( <b>KK</b> – Club Treasurer)

## **1 Notice and Quorum**

It was noted that the meeting had been duly convened and that a quorum was present for the purposes of the Club's constitution.

## **2 Previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 18 February 2024 were approved as circulated and will be uploaded to the Club's website.

## **3 Membership Update**

3.1 The Committee noted its thanks to CE for all her hard work with the membership renewal process.

3.2 CE reported that the Club currently had 134 first claim members, which was slightly lower than the same stage last year, but it was anticipated that there may be several additional members joining before the end of March to take advantage of the reduced membership cost.

3.3 It was noted that one of the Club's London Marathon ballot winners had had to defer her place due to an injury – the Committee wished the member a speedy recovery and would advise the Club of this development at an appropriate point.

#### **4 Finance Update**

4.1 As KK was not in attendance, CE noted that:

4.1.1 the Club had received payment from PECO in respect of its hosting arrangements; and

4.1.2 the Club's England Athletics club affiliation fee would be paid in April.

4.2 It was noted that financial information would be needed to included in the Club's communications for the Annual General Meeting (**AGM**).

#### **5 Social Events**

5.1 GR updated the Committee on the proposed board games social events – she had been in discussion with a club member who was happy to take the lead on the event and would look into moving it forward. GR will liaise with the member and assist as necessary.

5.2 TA noted that:

5.2.1 a trip to the ice hockey had been suggested as a social – due to timing over the Easter weekend, it hadn't received a lot of interest, but the event could be repeated in the future, perhaps with rugby or cricket; and

5.2.2 the Around the Park, Around the Clock 2024 event was scheduled for the late May bank holiday weekend.

#### **6 Club Awards Evening**

6.1 TA reported that:

6.1.1 the social committee had confirmed the venue and food – there was no minimum spend required, but attendees should be encouraged to eat the event to support the caterers;

6.1.2 TA would arrange collection of the individual awards and the engraving of the shields; and

6.1.3 the Alternative Awards presentation had now been prepared.

6.2 AR-Y reported that:

6.2.1 she had prepared the draft awards presentation – it just needed photos and final details to be added; and

6.2.2 the awards would need to be presented by members of the Committee – AR-Y would put together a proposed list of presenters to be confirmed in due course.

6.3 TA suggested that the shields presented to winners were perhaps superfluous, given that winners also receive an individual award to keep permanently as well as an item of club kit. It was decided that this would be put to the members at the AGM.

## **7 Annual General Meeting**

- 7.1 AR-Y and TA advised that they will finalise the AGM invitation emails to be sent out on Friday 29 March.
- 7.2 It was noted that there were several Committee positions to be elected and several members of the Club had expressed interest – the Committee will chase up with these individuals once the application process has been opened.
- 7.3 The Committee reviewed the various sections of the proposed AGM agenda and allocated these according to the draft AGM agenda saved on the Committee's shared drive. These sections would be reviewed again at the next meeting of the Committee.

## **8 Volunteering**

In CL's absence, the following matters were noted:

- 8.1 the Committee expressed its thanks to the PECO team captains for all their efforts over the PECO season;
- 8.2 CL had advised prior to the meeting that he would launch a combined promotion of the Club's volunteering opportunities, including the Summer Mile and the Leeds Marathon; and
- 8.3 TA reported that a Facebook event had been set up for the Club's volunteering takeover at Woodhouse Moor parkrun on 27 April and he would promote this over the next month.

## **9 Summer Mile**

JS reported that:

- 9.1 preparations for the 2024 event were now underway – the same sponsors had been confirmed as the previous year, together a new sponsor Notch, and the official charity would be Rainbow Junktion;
- 9.2 a mailshot to promote entries would be sent out shortly;
- 9.3 148 entries had been received so far (being slightly more than the same time last year) although entries from within the Club itself were lower than usual; and
- 9.4 the Club's supply of medals was running low but, with a medal amnesty from previous years and encouraging participants to not feel obliged to take medal, there should be sufficient stock for this year's event.

## **10 Club Competitions/Championships**

- 10.1 The Committee noted that the new championship season would be commencing shortly – LG's efforts in preparing the tables for use in the new championships were much appreciated.
- 10.2 It was noted that the first parkrun of the season would be Oakwell Hall – as the parkrun championship season would now be operating on an opt-in basis, the Committee will remind participants of this and also check in with any members who attend Oakwell Hall to ensure they are intending to participate in the championship.

## **11 Relays**

- 11.1 The Committee noted that RC and JC were doing an excellent job of co-ordinating the Calderdale Way Relay teams – two teams had now been organised, with several reserves, and reces of the routes would shortly begin. It was noted that RC and JC would be well-placed (and experienced) to co-ordinate future relays, such as the Leeds Country Way.
- 11.2 AR-Y noted that it would be good for the Club to have several teams at the Golden Acre Relays, due to take place in July. The event sells out quickly and needs to be entered by the teams themselves, rather than being co-ordinated by the Club, so the Committee will promote it widely (via a pinned post in the Club's Facebook page) when further details become available.

## **12 Club Standards**

TA noted that he had received a query about the minimum age for participation in the Club's events. It was noted that the Club is adults-only but, at present, the Club's website does not expressly state this – GR will update the website accordingly.

## **13 Sessions**

- 13.1 The Committee thanked GR for her efforts in organising and hosting the leaders' evening – GR fed back on some of the key points arising (as summarised in her separate note for the Committee). In particular, it was noted that, whilst many of the points have been discussed at similar evenings, it was worth reiterating them at regular intervals for new leaders and to reinforce good practices.
- 13.2 The Committee noted two recent minor incidents involving sessions:
  - 13.2.1 at a track session, the participants had encountered some issues with other users of the track using the same lanes – it was noted that this had been resolved amicably but it was decided that it was sensible to republish the track etiquette guidance previously shared to the Club's Facebook page; and
  - 13.2.2 there had been some feedback regarding a Club session which had not matched the Spond description, which had disappointed some attendees. The Committee noted that, ultimately, the sessions only operated due to leaders volunteering their time and that the Committee was grateful to anyone doing so, even if the session did not match the advertised description. It was noted that, in similar circumstances, it would be preferable for attendees to discuss with the run leader at the time and, failing that, to let the Committee know so the matter could be addressed discreetly.
- 13.3 The Committee noted that, with British Summer Time commencing shortly, this would have certain effects on the Club's activities:
  - 13.3.1 hi-vis clothing would no longer be mandatory from early April; and
  - 13.3.2 the Kirkstall Hills session would be replaced with park-based sessions, with a plan to be drawn up by the Club's coaches.
- 13.4 GR noted that Leeds University would be closed over the Easter weekend, which might impact on the opening of the Edge Sports Centre on Tuesday 02 April. GR will check and confirm this with the university.

## **14 Welfare**

CL had reported in advance of the meeting that he was dealing with one welfare matter and would update the Committee if appropriate at a future date.

## **15 Any Other Business**

- 15.1 AR-Y updated the Committee in respect of the DMARC requirements – essentially, this has now been resolved for all Club communications.
- 15.2 CE noted that the Club's Mailchimp mailing lists were reaching the maximum capacity but c.300 spaces could be cleared by removing the "general enquiries" recipients, which would resolve the issue in the short-to-medium term.
- 15.3 GR advised that she was continuing to liaise with a Club member (JN) regarding the veterans' league.
- 15.4 The Committee thanked CE for her efforts in updating the Club's noticeboard at the Edge sports centre.
- 15.5 TA and CE noted that KJ, as the Club's President, had been awarded life membership several years ago although there was some query as to whether it had formally been awarded (as it had been confirmed at an Open Committee Meeting, rather than an Annual General Meeting). It was decided that KJ's life membership would be confirmed (and her historic life membership ratified) at the AGM in 2024.
- 15.6 The Committee noted that, in 2022 and 2023, the Club had hosted a track day for members – as it required significant amounts of organisation, it would be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee as to whether to repeat it in 2024.

## **16 Future Meetings**

TA will arrange the next meeting of the Committee, which would likely be at 6pm on 28 April 2024.

## **17 Close of Meeting**

- 17.1 There being no further business, the meeting was closed.
- 17.2 TA will circulate a draft of the minutes and action points as soon as practicable following the meeting.